

ON BUFOMICRUS SHARP (CURCULIONIDAE: BRACHYDERINAE)

21. A contribution to the knowledge of the Curculionoidea.

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While making routine determinations of Curculionidae for several Entomological Agencies in Central America, the weevils collected by the author during the years 1945-46 in Central and South America were restudied. A new *Bufomicrus* was found in the undetermined material. The late Sir G. A. K. Marshall examined it and made the necessary comparisons with other members of the genus.

Bufomicrus Sharp closely resembles a rather rotund *Epicaerus*. The rostrum is short, not broader at apex; the scrobes are deep, curved, entirely lateral and sharply defined. The mentum is large and completely conceals the palpi. The eyes are strongly convex. The elytra broad and subcircular. The anterior coxae are located very near the anterior edge of the prosternum. The middle legs are but slightly separated and the metasternum is remarkably short. The corbels of the hind tibiae are closed.

With the exception of some examples of *Bufomicrus squamosus* Sharp, collected in British Honduras, all known examples of *Bufomicrus* have been collected on the Atlantic slope of Guatemala. Most of the examples *which have been seen* have been, at least in part, covered with a brownish clay-like material, which usually obscures the surface of the derm.

The terminology used in this paper is that of Buchanan (1939:10) and Sleeper (1953:113). Measurements of length are taken from a lateral view. Total length measured from front edge of eyes to apex of elytra. Other measurements are at widest or longest part of the structure. The following key will serve to separate the known species of *Bufomicrus*.

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| 1. All femora armed, tooth of the posterior pair frequently smaller than that on the remaining femora; nasal plate not surrounded by an arcuate, glabrous, flattened space; vestiture of dorsum variable | 2 |
| 1'. Posterior femora unarmed; nasal plate surrounded by a curvate glabrous, flattened space; dorsum completely clothed with squamosity, that of elytra variegated | |
| <i>cristatus</i> Sharp | |
| 2. Vestiture of dorsum densely squamose, composed of prostrate scales and semierect or depressed setae | 3 |

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- 2'. Vestiture of dorsum very sparse, composed for the most part of recurved almost prostrate setae, with an occasional scattered circular scale**marshalli**, new species
3. Rostrum with dorsum slightly concave, front between eyes with a minute fovea; setae of elytra semierect**squamosus** Sharp
- 3'. Rostrum with dorsum flat; front without depression or fovea; setae on the elytra depressed, differing very little from scales**globipennis** Sharp

Only a few examples of *Bufomicrus* have been seen. Most of the following distributional data is from the literature.

Bufomicrus cristatus Sharp

Bufomicrus cristatus Sharp, 1891:146.

Distribution. Guatemala: Sinanja (Champion). Known only from the unique type.

Bufomicrus marshalli, new species

(Figures 1 and 2)

Female. Short, ovate; derm shining black when coating removed, the antennae dark reddish brown; very sparsely clothed dorsally with nearly prostrate recurved amber scale-like setae and a few scattered prostrate circular gray scales, the latter more frequently in the apical portion of the elytra.

Rostrum very short, as broad as long, gradually narrowing apically, coarsely, deeply punctured on dorsum, the latter appearing very flattened from above, but arcuate in lateral outline; nasal plate small, triangular, bordered with a prominent raised carina; subapical area slightly depressed; laterally an elongate triangular shaped fovea above the scrobes. Antennae rather long and slender, the scape nearly attaining the anterior margin of the prothorax. Funicle as long as scape, with the first two segments subequal, 3rd one-half as long as 2nd, 4th slightly shorter than 3rd, 5th nearly as long as 3rd, 6th shorter than 5th, 7th three-fourths as long as first. All segments sparsely clothed with long setae, (ratio of segments: 3:3:1.6:1.2:1.5:1.3:1.8). Club elongate-oval, acuminate at apex; as long as preceding 4 segments combined; very densely clothed with fine, prostrate pubescence and a few scattered setae. *Head*, in lateral view, a continuous outline with rostrum; front broad, flat and without fovea, but very coarsely, deeply punctured. Eyes circular, prominent, separated by twice their diameter. *Prothorax* as long as broad (4:4); the disc with a few scattered, irregularly sized deep punctures; sides strongly curved from base to constricted apex; flanks with coarse deep closely placed punctures. Scutellum absent. *Elytra* more than $\frac{1}{2}$ wider than, and almost twice as long as prothorax, oval, nearly as broad as long (6.5:7.5); disc strongly convex; strial grooves absent, striae indicated by rows of large, deep circular punctures which are separated on disc by one-half their own diameter; intervals flat but appearing convex due to deepness of strial punctures; dorsal outline strongly convex to declivity, thence vertical to apex (fig. 2). *Ventral side* more densely clothed with scales and setae than dorsum; very closely and finely punctured throughout; a row of coarse, deep punctures immediately behind mesocoxae and on the intercoxal process of the first abdominal sternite. Anterior coxae contiguous; middle coxae separated by one-third their width, the mesosternum formed in a

tubercle between them; hind coxae separated by nearly one and one-half times their width. Fore and middle femora with a prominent tooth; hind with a minute tooth. Tibiae long, narrow and with a row of short spines at the apex. Hind tibiae with corbels closed. Tarsi broad, rather flattened; first and last tarsal segments subequal, the second and third subequal, each about one-half as long as first, third very broadly bilobed; all segments very thinly pilose on the underside. Length 6.4 mm., width 3.4 mm.

Male. Unknown.

Type locality. Izabal, Estado de Izabal, Guatemala.

Type material. Holotype No. 72, and 1 ♀ paratype from type locality, I-16-46, ELS, (ELS).

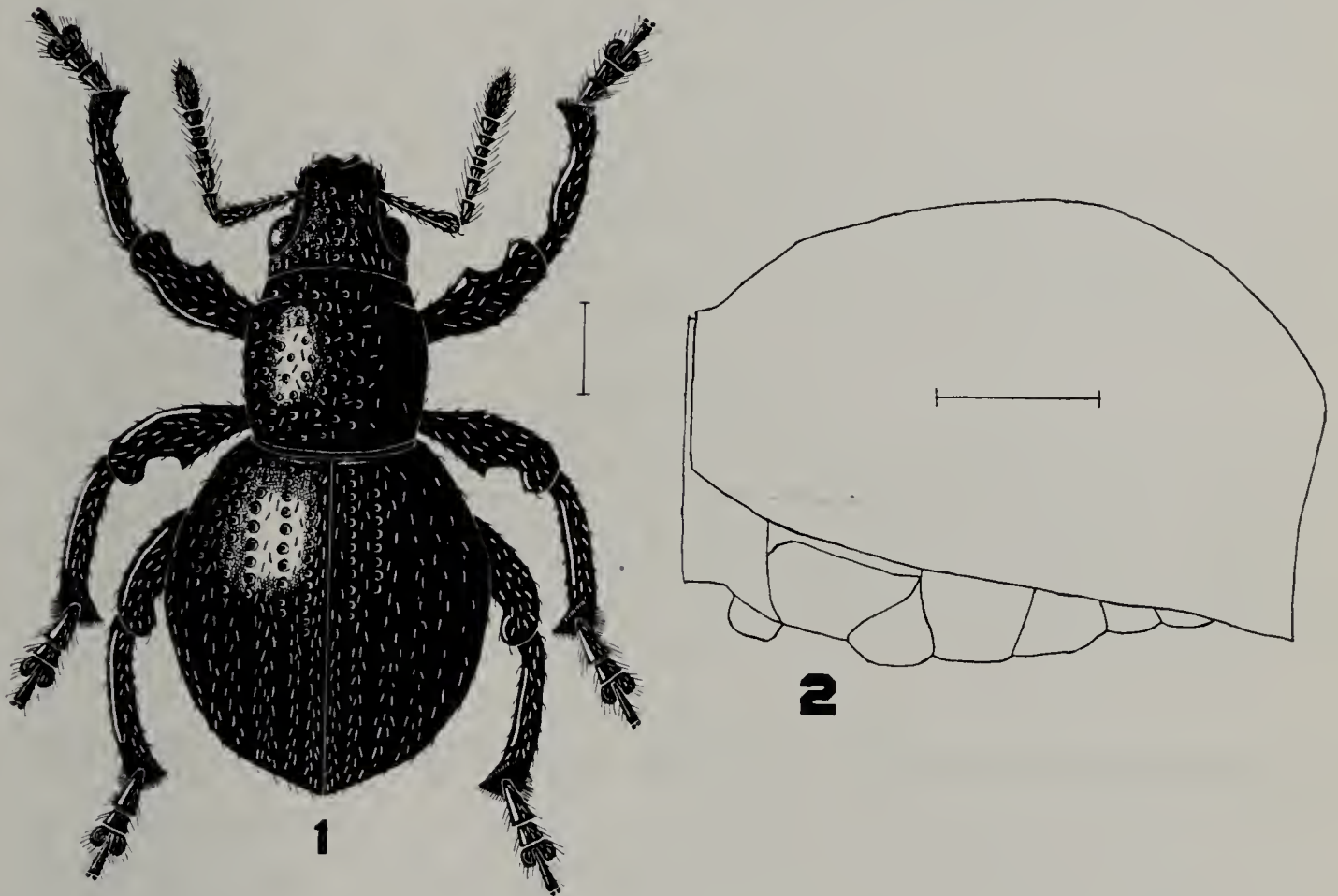


FIGURE 1. Dorsal view of *Buфомicrus marshalli*, n. sp., ♀, holotype. FIGURE 2. Lateral outline sketch of the elytra of *Buфомicrus marshalli*, n. sp., ♀, holotype. Line = 1 mm.

This species can be easily separated from other members of the genus by the characteristics utilized in the key. It is with great pleasure that I name this species in honor of Sir G. A. K. Marshall who has been an unfailing source of help in my studies of the weevils. The town of Izabal is located on the south shore of Lago de Izabal.

Bufomicrus squamosus Sharp

Bufomicrus squamosus Sharp, 1891:145.

Distribution. British Honduras: "British Honduras (Blancaneaux)." *Guatemala:* Telemán, La Tinta, Chacoj, Tamahu, San Juan, Panima, all in the Polochic Valley, Vera Paz. Additional localities: El Estor, Estado de Izabal (on north side of Lago de Izabal), I-15-46, ELS, (ELS), 3 examples.

Bufomicrus globipennis Sharp

Bufomicrus globipennis Sharp, 1891:146.

Distribution. Guatemala: Yzabal (Salle). Known only from the two examples cited in the original description. It is probable that the locality "Yzabal" and Izabal are the same.

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NECRODES SURINAMENSIS (SILPHIDAE) IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

Hatch (1957)¹ suggests that *Necrodes surinamensis* has recently been introduced "west of the Rocky Mountains where it is rapidly becoming established." In the Pacific Northwest Hatch cites records of one specimen from northeastern British Columbia (no date), one from Idaho (1949), a series from eastern Washington (1949, 1951, 1956), and three from western Oregon (1946, 1955).

In May, 1958, the writer collected two adult specimens of this species from a dead raccoon found in Dosewallips Canyon, Jefferson Co., Washington. These specimens from the Olympic Peninsula establish a new western Washington record and further corroborate Dr. Hatch's theory that *Necrodes surinamensis* has invaded the Pacific Northwest, and is becoming established there.—JENS W. KNUDSEN, Dept. of Biol., Pacific Lutheran College, Parkland, Wn.

¹Hatch, Melville H. 1957. The Beetles of the Pacific Northwest. II: Staphyliniformia, pg. 11.